

Multiple Antennas at Transmitters and Receivers to Achieving Higher Diversity and Data Rates in MIMO Systems

Related Application

[01] This application is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S Patent Application Serial No. 10/209,306, "MIMO Systems with Rate Feedback and Space Time Transmit Diversity," filed by Horng, et al. on July 31, 2002. This application is related to a U.S. Patent Application titled "Space Time Transmit Diversity with SubGroup Rate Control and SubGroup Antenna Selection in Multi-Input Multi-Output Communications Systems," by Mehta et al., co-filed herewith, and incorporated herein by reference.

Field of the Invention

[02] The invention relates generally to wireless communication systems, and more particularly to selecting antennas in multiple input, multiple output wireless communications systems.

Background of the Invention

[03] Multiple-input, multiple-out (MIMO) antenna systems are envisaged for deployment in wireless communications systems designed according to future 3G and 4G standards. The multiple antennas will support high data rates and increase capacity and coverage for a cellular telephone systems that provide both high rate and low rate services to multiple users in a fixed bandwidth wireless channel. Multiple antenna systems exploit spatial

characteristics of the channel using spatial multiplexing and transmit diversity.

[04] In spatial multiplexing, multiple data streams are transmitted concurrently from multiple antennas and received by multiple antennas, Foschini et al., “*On Limits of Wireless Communications in a Fading Environment when Using Multiple Antennas*,” Wireless Pers. Commun., pp. 311–335, 1998. A number of architectures are known that attempt to achieve a theoretical capacity of the channel, Foschini et al., “*Layered Space-Time Architecture for Wireless Communication in a Fading Environment When Using Multiple Antennas*,” Bell Labs Tech. J., vol. 1, no. 2, pp. 41–59, 1996, Wolniansky et al., “*V-BLAST: An Architecture for Realizing Very High Data Rates Over the Rich-Scattering Wireless Channel*,” ISSSE, pp. 295–299, 1998 and Sellathurai et al., “*TURBO-BLAST for Wireless Communications: Theory and Experiments*,” IEEE Trans. Commun., vol. 50, no. 10, pp. 2538–2546, Oct. 2002.

[05] In transmit diversity, the same data stream is transmitted over multiple transmit antennas to increase a diversity order of the signal at the receiver, Anderson, “*Antenna Arrays in Mobile Communications: Gain, diversity and channel capacity*,” IEEE Antennas Propagat. Mag., vol. 42, pp. 12–16, Apr. 2000.

[06] Closed-loop (CL) diversity systems exploit information about the channel at the transmitter, Sandell, “*Analytical analysis of transmit diversity in WCDMA on fading multipath channels*,” IEEE Int. Symp. on Personal, Indoor and Mobile Radio Commun., 1999. Open-loop (OL) system do not

exploit channel information, Tarokh et al., “*Space Time Codes for High Data Rate Wireless Communication*,” IEEE Trans. Inform. Theory, vol. 44, pp. 744–765, 1999, and Alamouti, “*A simple transmit diversity technique for wireless communications*,” IEEE J. Selected Areas in Commun., vol. 16, Oct., pp. 1451–1458, 1998.

[07] With space time transmit diversity (STTD), a transmit diversity technique requires two transmit antennas and at least one receive antenna, 3GPP Standard TR 25.211, “*Physical Channels and Mapping of Transport Channels onto Physical Channels (FDD)*,” v5.4.0, 06/2003. Multiple antenna solutions for higher number of transmit and receive antennas have also been described for 3GPP, “*TR25.869: Transmitter diversity solutions for multiple antennas*,” v1.2.0, Sep. 2003., and “*TR 25.876: Multiple Input Multiple Output (MIMO) Antennae in UTRA*,” v1.3.0, Feb. 2004.

[08] While spatial multiplexing provides higher data rates and increases the spectral efficiency of wireless links, transmit and receive diversity make single stream transmission more reliable in time-varying wireless channels. Thereby, the range and area of acceptable coverage is increased. There exists a fundamental trade-off between achievable diversity and spatial multiplexing gains, Zheng and Tse, “*Diversity and Multiplexing: A Fundamental Tradeoff in Multiple-Antenna Channels*,” IEEE Transactions on Information Theory, Vol. 49, No. 5, pp. 1073–1096, May 2003.

[09] Another issues is the number of antenna elements that user equipment (UE), e.g., a small, hand-held, cellular telephone can accommodate. Schemes based on STTD, for example, double space time

transmit diversity with subgroup rate control, (DSTTD-SGRC), as described in U.S. Patent Application Sn. 10/209,306, “*MIMO Systems with Rate Feedback and Space Time Transmit Diversity*,” filed by Horng et al., on July 31st, 2002, require that the number of receive antennas is only half the number of transmit antennas for proper decoding of the transmitted signal.

[010] Pure transmit diversity techniques, such as maximum ratio transmission (MRT), do not place any minimum requirements on the number of receive antennas. V-BLAST and other similar techniques require at least as many receive antennas as transmit antennas. For example, for four transmit antennas, DSTTD-SGRC requires two antennas while V-BLAST requires four receive antennas, while MRT requires one receive antenna.

Summary of the Invention

[011] A method transmits an input stream of data symbols in a multiple-input, multiple-output wireless communications system. The input stream is demultiplexed into M substreams.

[012] Each of the M substreams is adaptively modulated and coded to a coded substream according to channel conditions. A first of the M coded substreams is space-time transmit diversity encoded into two space-time transmit diversity encoded substreams. There is one space-time transmit diversity encoded substream for each one of two transmit antennas.

[013] Each other coded substream is transmitted directly by a corresponding one of remaining $M-1$ transmit antennas.

Brief Description of the Drawings

[014] Figure 1 is a block diagram of a transmitter according to the invention; and

[015] Figure 2 is a block diagram of a transmitter according to an alternative embodiment of the invention.

Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiment

[016] The invention provides a transmitter that is backward compatible with transmitters that use space-time transmit diversity (STTD) coding to increase a diversity order of a spatial channel. The transmitter transmits multiple independent data streams concurrently, and requires fewer receive antennas than transmit antennas. Adaptive modulation and coding (AMC) is applied to each of the independent data streams to match different channel conditions with required performance, and to achieve a higher system capacity.

[017] Figure 1 shows a transmitter 100 for a multiple-input, multiple-out (MIMO) wireless communications systems according to the invention. The transmitter 100 includes $M+1$ transmit antennas. A first pair of antennas is labeled 140, and the remaining $M-1$ single antennas are labeled 145.

[018] A data stream X 101 is provided to a combined stream selection switch and demultiplexer (demux) 110. The demultiplexer 110 partitions the

stream 101 into, at most, M substreams 111-113. A first substream is fed to the first pair of antennas 140, and each of the remaining $M-1$ substreams are fed directly to the corresponding one of the remaining $M-1$ single antennas 145.

[019] Depending on a channel condition 160 feedback from a receiver 500, or other constraints such as backward compatibility, some of the $M+1$ antennas can be turned off or *deselected* by switches (SW) 102. These are called '*inactive*' antennas. The remaining '*active*' antennas transmit the substreams with particular coding rates and modulation based on the channel condition 160 as determined by a rate and modulation selection block 150. For further details see the related application. Of course deselecting some of the antennas means that the demultiplexer produces a fewer number of substreams.

[020] The first substream 111 is to be transmitted by the two transmit antennas 140, via a STTD encoder 130. Each of the remaining substreams 112-113 is to be transmitted by a corresponding one of the single antennas 145.

[021] During the duration of two symbols, the STTD encoder 130 takes in information symbols X_{11} and X_{12} of the first stream 111, and outputs two pairs of symbols 131 as:

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_{11} & x_{12} \\ -x_{21}^* & x_{22}^* \end{pmatrix},$$

where $*$ denotes a complex conjugate, and each row (pair) represents the output to a specific one of the two transmit antennas 140.

[022] The other active substreams take the two information symbols X_{i1} and X_{i2} and transmit the symbols directly as

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_{i1} & x_{i2} \end{pmatrix},$$

where i is the substream number.

[023] Spreading and Scrambling

[024] In WCDMA systems, the output of the STTD block 130 is further demultiplexed into N streams, where N is the number of orthogonal variable spreading factor (OVSF) codes assigned. Each stream is spread with its respective OVSF code (OC) and then scrambled with a corresponding scrambling code (SC). The scrambled streams are then combined and transmitted from one or two antennas, depending on whether the stream uses STTD or not. For further details see the related application.

[025] Receiver Structure

[026] The number of transmit antennas is $(M+1)$. To uniquely decode the input data stream 101, the receiver has at least M antennas. This is summarized in Table A.

Table A

Number of active transmit antennas	Required number of receive antennas
2	1
3	2
4	3
$M+1$	M

[027] The transmitter according to the invention provides a middle ground between D-STTD and V-BLAST-based transmitter structures.

[028] Figure 2 shows an alternative embodiment. In this transmitter, the first two substreams are fed to corresponding pairs of transmit antennas. In this case for M substreams, the transmitter 200 includes $M+2$ transmit antennas. The first two pairs of antennas are labeled 140, and the remaining $M-2$ single antennas are labeled 145.

[029] It is to be understood that various other adaptations and modifications may be made within the spirit and scope of the invention. Therefore, it is the object of the appended claims to cover all such variations and modifications as come within the true spirit and scope of the invention.